

REMARKS

Consideration of this Amendment and early and favorable action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

By this Amendment, claims 12-19 remain pending, with claims 12 and 19 independent.

Conclusion

Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and remarks, an early indication of the allowability of each of claims 12-19 in connection with the present application is earnestly solicited.

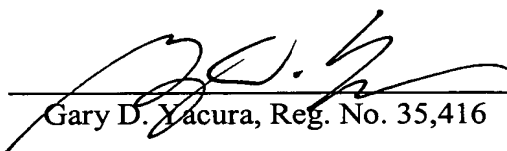
Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Gary D. Yacura at the telephone number of the undersigned below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNES, DICKY & PIERCE, P.L.C

By:



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